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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Did you ever attend a session of the United States Supreme Court? If not, and you are ever in Washington when that august body is sitting, do so. It is a sight well worth seeing, but if you are like the average person you will not care to go twice. The awful stillness and dignity which permeate the very atmosphere of the court-room takes the conceit out of you and makes you feel so insignificant that it is an hour or so after you get out before your feelings assume their normal condition. At least that is the way it affects me at every visit, and for many years I have attended the opening session, just as I did to-day, as well as other sessions when important arguments were being made or opinions handed down. The business of to-day's session was confined to swearing in the new member, Justice Shiras of Pennsylvania, after which the Court, in accordance with its annual custom, adjourned to pay its respects to the President. This visit of the court, in a body, to the White House is usually a very pleasant affair, but to-day, owing to Mrs. Harrison's illness, it was altogether solemn.

Washington certainly never went through a Presidential campaign as quiet as this one has been up to this time. If a visitor to the city keeps away from the professional politicians he finds no evidence that a campaign is in progress. The plain people, as a rule, are not talking politics, and when they do they appear not to care a rap which ticket is elected. This is an unsolvable puzzle to those who have witnessed the excitement which has always existed in Washington for months before every national election. Your correspondent makes no pretence of explaining why this apathy and indifference exists. He is here to give you an unprejudiced weekly photograph of things at the National Capital, not an opinion on the drums for yourself, with as much prospect of getting the right answer as he has.

The Treasury Department has just awarded a contract for the building of a self-righting, self-bailing life-boat for the life-saving station, to be exhibited on the lake front at the World's Fair. This boat will be a wonder in its way, and will attract the attention of all visitors to the fair who are in any way interested in boating. It is to be 34 feet long and will carry forty passengers. If capsized it will automatically right itself in fifteen seconds, as well as bail the water out. It will be absolutely non-sinkable, is to cost \$2,950, and to be completed and delivered at Chicago by April 1, 1893. Certainly this will be a life-boat, in reality as well as in name.

To those around Mrs. Harrison there is scarcely a perceptible change in her condition from day to day, but when her condition to-day is compared with what it was a week ago it is plain that she is gradually growing weaker and weaker. Those who have watched beside the bed of a consumptive patient know what this means.

The Administration is pretty well represented just now on the stump. There was considerable activity up there, but since the official announcement that there was no truth in the report saying that President Harrison was opposed to stumping by Federal officials, there has been an exodus of officials, from members of the Cabinet down to employees of the lowest grade in the public service, all anxious to talk in favor of Mr. Harrison's re-election, and to make themselves solid for retention in office or promotion in case he wins. Not a few people, including many good Republicans, believe that a mistake has been made by the Administration in allowing this, and that an order from President Harrison absolutely forbidding any Federal official making a political stump speech would have gained him many more votes than he will get through the speeches made by these officials.

Patrick Egan, United States Minister to Chili, a gentleman who occupied considerable newspaper space a few months ago, is in town. He says his visit to the United States at this time has no political significance, but it is dollars to wood tooth-picks that he will be on the stump before election. Mr. Egan brought with him a certified check for the \$75,000 that Chili allowed the sailors of the *Baltimore* as indemnity, also the draft of a new treaty for the arbitration of claims made by citizens of either country. He also brought with him a piece of news very encouraging to the Republicans, although some of them doubt its correctness, when he stated that Mr. Blaine would take the stump for his party.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellow-men. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Jones, 220 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.

AT THE THEATRES.

The DeWolf Hopper Opera Company will remain at the Broadway Theatre, New York city, but five weeks longer commencing Monday evening, October 17th, this week being the last one of "Wang's" long and prosperous career at that theatre, and on next Saturday evening the final performance of the magnificent production of the metropolis, the Monday evening following "Wang's" exit, the initial performance of "The Lady or the Tiger?" will take place. The principals and chorus have been in active rehearsal for the past fortnight, and scenic artists as well as costumers have been busily engaged in the preparation of elaborate stage settings and appropriate costumes, and the forthcoming production of Sydney Rosenfeld's sparkling comic opera will, it is said, be both handsome and complete, and entirely in keeping with the high standard established by Mr. Hopper and his business associates in the production of light comic opera.

The libretto of "The Lady or the Tiger?" is adapted from Frank Stockton's charming sketch of that name, and its scenes are laid in ancient Greece, when mythology dominated religion, politics, and even morals. The plot of the opera is as follows: A tyrant named Pausanias, the Regent of Sparta, weary of putting Christians to death by torture, offers prizes to his subjects for ideas concerning methods of capital punishment, and in order to secure more refinement in the manner of disposing of the captives taken in battle, accepts the clever plan of a young Spartan soldier, named Lamarchus, who suggests leading the captive into the grand arena, where he is compelled to open the door of one of two sealed cages. In one cage is a fierce hungry tiger, and in the other a young and beautiful maiden. If he chooses the tiger's cage he is devoured, but if he chooses the other he is set free and is given the hand of the young lady in marriage. Lamarchus, who is a brave soldier of humble origin, secretly loves Irene, the Regent's daughter, and when he is betrayed by Hilaria, the handmaiden of Irene, he is condemned by the furious monarch to be the first victim of his own cunningly devised method of torture. The cast of "The Lady or the Tiger?" will be unprecedentedly strong and complete, and will comprise all of the present members of Mr. Hopper's admirable company, in addition to Mr. Jefferson D'Angeli, who has been specially engaged by the management to play his original role of Menander, the prophet, a part he made famous a few years ago.

The character of Pausanias will be enacted by DeWolf Hopper, a role admirably adapted to his comedy powers and unobtrusive humor, while the part of Hilaria, an ingenious Grecian maiden, will be portrayed by Della Fox. One of the most popular numbers of the opera is the topical song "On Very Good Terms with Himself," as sung by Mr. Hopper, and for which the author has written several new couplets.

The revival of "The Lady or the Tiger?" at the Broadway Theatre promises to be one of the great features of the present season, and as much care and expense have been given to the details of the production as though it was intended for a long and extended run, instead of the five remaining weeks of Mr. Hopper's engagement.

"Dr. Bill" at Miner's. The world loves to laugh. It is a sad age. Every serious-minded person seems to possess within himself or herself the mechanism for sorrow, so arranged that it can be turned to the full force of morbidity at the slightest suggestion. It is upon this truism that Hamilton Alde, the adapter of the French comedy "Le Docteur Jo Jo" into English as "Dr. Bill," which will be presented for five nights beginning Tuesday evening at Miner's Newark Theatre, relies for success.

The young and fast doctor, who, from the irregularity of a Bohemian life in London which made him the intimate companion of the theatrical profession, steps with a big legacy into the bosom of a respectable family, loving a rich young wife well enough to forswear his old sports, and with a mistrust in his powers of self-protection sufficient to make him dread any chance of meeting his former-time boon companions, retires for safety to private life, literally lying in the arms of his wife like a ship in harbor, afraid to venture out. A meddling father-in-law, who hates idleness, despairing of coaxing his newly made son-in-law back into his practice, of the dangers of which he is ignorant, resorts to stratagem. He orders and nails a sign to the physician's front door, without his knowledge; he sends circulars all over London, especially to the theatres, without his knowledge; he makes him the hero of a puffing newspaper item without his knowledge, and, as a result, up jump several of his old companions to make things lively for him.

Seats are now selling for "Dr. Bill," for five nights and Saturday matinee.

Giving the Devil His Due. Our office "devil" has been on the sick list over a week, and this with a rush of job printing rather hinders us giving as full a compendium of news as we might otherwise have done.—Stanhope (N. J.) Eagle.

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Or are any of your friends? Don't tell, if it's a secret. But every one, even if pledged to a life of "single blessedness," is bound to be interested in weddings, and wants to know all the latest fads concerning them; and every one will be thoroughly posted about all the details of a modern fashionable wedding, and know how to manage any style of wedding, after reading (as every one should) the very fully illustrated and exhaustive article, "The Modern Wedding Festival," published in *Demorest's Family Magazine* for November. All the girls and their maids will enjoy reading about Kitty's debut tea, which is described in such a sparkling manner in "A Debutante's Winter in New York," and will learn just how a coming-out tea should be conducted. If you are interested in floriculture, you will appreciate the advice given in "The Care of Outdoor Plants in Autumn." "Columbus: His Story and His Country" is an especially timely article, beautifully illustrated. The stories are excellent; every one of the numerous departments, for which this distinctively Family Magazine is noted, is full to overflowing with good things; and there are nearly 200 illustrations, including a superb tinted portrait of Mrs. Grover Cleveland. Altogether this is an excellent number, in which every one is sure to find something of interest. The subscription price of *Demorest's Family Magazine* is only \$2 a year, or single copies, 25 cents. Published by W. J. Bennett, Demorest, 15 E. 14th Street, New York.

A Humorous Judge.

A Judge who has the reputation of being very witty had before him the other day a woman who wept so bitterly over her misfortunes that her sobs could be heard all over the court-room. While she was thus watering the floor with her tears, a prominent lawyer came in, and hearing her cries he said: "You Honor, what is the matter with this woman?" "I don't know," replied the Judge, "but apparently she needs bailing out." "Oh, no, your Honor," said the poor woman, "I come to tell you my husband came to-day, full of drink, and took off my feet the darling pair of Coward's Common Sense Shoes that my son Jimmie bought for me at 270 and 272 Greenwich Street, New York." "Well," said the Judge, "I guess the fellow was looking for a good wedding."—Adv.

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